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Chair

One Hundred Seventeenth Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

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June 3, 2022

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Board of Commissioners Berks County, Penn. 633 Court Street

13th Floor

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MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

TIM MONAHAN

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

633 Court Street 13th Floor

Reading, PA 19601

Dear Chair Kirksey:

Reading, PA 19601

Christian Y. Leinbach

Berks County, Penn.

633 Court Street 13th Floor

Board of Commissioners

commissioners@countyofberks.com

In May, Minority staff from the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration traveled to Pennsylvania to conduct fact-finding surrounding the primary election. As Ranking Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, which has broad oversight of our nation's federal elections, I write today to express my concern about a recent report they received during their visit that Berks County's electronic pollbooks (EPBs) were inoperable for an extended period of time on election day last week, which resulted in extended polling hours.

America's decentralized elections system is the best in the world, and Republicans are committed to ensuring all eligible voters who want to participate are able to cast ballots and have those ballots counted according to law. Since last Congress, I have met with Secretaries of State, Lt. Governors, and local election administrators from states as wide-ranging as Alaska, Iowa, and New York, among others, to learn about and promote the many first-rate examples of excellence in election administration across the country. Unfortunately, rather than add to those efforts, situations like this one in Berks County do real damage to voter confidence in our election systems and outcomes at a time when we can least afford it.

In the interest of ensuring that all individuals eligible to vote have the opportunity to do so, please respond with an explanation of when and for how long the EPBs were not able to be used. Please also share any procedural or regulatory changes you will make to ensure this does not recur for the upcoming federal election in November.

I look forward to your response. Please send your response and any questions you may have by June 23, 2022, to Caleb Hays, General Counsel and Deputy Staff Director, at Caleb.Hays@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis
Ranking Member

Committee on House Administration

CC: Berks County, Penn., Board of Elections Commissioners